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is opposed what Mr. Reade calls the law of civilisation, that just because certain kinds of work are "necessary" therefore those who perform such work are the least important and least fitted to shape the fortunes of their state. The issue is, of course, not so clear and absolute as stated by Mr. Reade.

The "necessary" work, he admits, has to be performed; and he is driven to the conclusion that as there is no servile class or caste in the modern world, the effect of letting loose upon the many the higher education now restricted to the few would be disastrous. The last chapter, "The Way of Escape," is curiously inadequate. The first step in reform, he thinks, is the reduction of our population by "five or ten millions," by the spread of "philosophy" or a true Malthusianism (p. 74), "the only cure for this distracted multitude is, I repeat, to get rid of it." Decimation is no solution, even though decimation reduced the scale of industrial problems.

J. E.

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